

May 22, 1986

Dearest All & Everyone Concerned,

For some time now I have been working on that most dreaded of administrative expressions, the policy paper. My intention, as such, was to communicate to the group certain ideas and/or plans I have had in respect to L.G.F.C.'s direction this coming year. Unfortunately, and much to my chagrin, the "Cory Plan" (as it will come to be known), is still in its development phase. Be that as it may, I have in fact kept very busy getting other things done, read completed! This communique will attempt to outline what has been accomplished these past weeks. I hope, as well, to touch upon questions of policy, of which this letter, by its very existence, is an example. Let me elaborate further.

To begin with, I hope my position as coordinator will become and remain one that is dependant upon the active participation and feedback of the whole group, not just a few. By extension, it is one of my primary goals to foster, as much as is possible, an enviroment conducive to such dialogue via structural changes and organizational sharing. Let this report than be a small start to such an end. In udder words, talk to meeee, I can be freeee, believe meeee, etcetera.

From the beginning of my tenure as coordinator I have felt a strong need to "link up" with other groups. This inclination applies equally to those within the city, at the university, and nation-wide. Practically speaking, it can only be beneficial to exchange information which must lead, I think, to a more complete program of activities at L.G.F.C. if not to a renewed focus on issues of concern to us. Most of you have probably seen the form-letter posted on the office door which was sent, along with copies of the Gay Supplement, to various organizations across Canada. The response thus far has been excellent, (enclosed are xerox copies of answers received). I am, on top of this effort, searching out specifac groups who appear to have a certain degree of expertise in particular fields(i.e. conferences, films, etc...). At Concordia I am attempting to connect with student groups whose focus overlaps with our own. The Anti-Apartheid Committee, for instance, expressed interest in the Simon Nkodi situation(black, gay activist on trial with others in South Africa on charges which range from murder to treason and terrorism). At this point I put together for them a small file on the subject. This kind of "sharing" is vital to an understanding of the issues at hand as well as a positive, affirming gesture from L.G.F.C. to those others who work for justice

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and an end to oppression on different fronts. The Women's Collective is another group with whom I believe L.G.F.C. should be working in some capacity, (I have already gotten in touch but only through memos left on their door). Correspondingly, I have some very entrenched views on lesbian involvement, or lack thereof, in L.G.F.C. For a complete picture consult my attached paper entitled plainly Lesbian Involvement.

The AIDS crisis and our respective response to it also figures prominently on my list of priority subjects. How effective have our educational efforts been? Should we work closer with established AIDS organizations here in Montreal like C.S.A.M.? To what extent are our members really informed? Have we neglected the broader social and political dimensions of AIDS? What could be done to fill such gaps if in fact they exist at all? As an adjunct to these questions I have enclosed a copy of the May Act Bulletin from Toronto. You'll find with it some correspondence from C.S.A.M. that is self-explanatory.

Welllllll...how bout....stamps! Yes kids you too can partake in our recently acquired patent pending all purpose rubber stamp whose divine beauty is displayed below:

"ooooooooohhhhh!"



"ahhhhhhhhhhhhh!"

And than ofcourse there's our new answering machine(surprise!) to be reckoned with. The story goes like this: After a near-explosive discussion over the phone with V.P.Finance as to the necessity of our request, he conceded to me the fundss in question, (or rather he called back the next day with the good news). The stuff of true melodrama, yes indeed. On a more serious note the machine's function will prove invaluable. Consider the scenario involving somebody calling L.G.F.C. for the first time in need of information, solace, whatever. Of two possible alternatives which is the better, 1/nobody home or 2/a recorded voice message with the sentiment that there is somebody, a community, out there to help.

Given problems with the booking of room FA-202 I have decided, after meeting with the Dean of Students, that the location of the coffee house(s) should be changed. It's new, albeit temporary and much bemoaned home is H-651. There are three dates involved: June 6th, July 4th, and August 1st.

There is also our CUSA Handbook submission to worry about, the deadline for which looms a little more than a week away. All the necessary details can be found in an attached memo. Are there any

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suggestions out there? If so get in touch with me.

Some other business at hand includes the tabling of L.G.F.C. budgets, (both summer and fall), organizing a trip to Toronto in late June for the Gay Pride Celebrations, and planning in general ad nauseam; read endless carbon copies, renewed magazine subscriptions, gay travel guides, student security confrontations, lots of p.r., blather, rave, rant, foam...

In conclusion, I can only reiterate my desire to work with the group as a functioning, dynamic whole. Please speak with me at any time as to the contents of this package/letter or in regards to the "Cory Plan" and its development. I can be reached at one of the following numbers: 848-7414(L.G.F.C.), 848-7575(Labor Pool), or 488-1793(Home).

Yours In Solidarity,

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Thomas Burnside  
Coordinator